



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



November 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### CONNECTICUT, Northeast

CTZ002>004

**Hartford - Tolland - Windham**

**01 1100EST  
1900EST**

**0 0**

**Heavy Rain**

A strong coastal low pressure system moved northeast into southeastern Massachusetts from south of Long Island and brought gusty east to southeast winds and heavy rainfall to northern and eastern Connecticut. Some rainfall amounts included: Mansfield, 3.22 inches; Willimantic, 2.67 inches; Hartford, 2.37 inches; and Windsor Locks, 2.17 inches. There were a few scattered reports of urban street flooding.

CTZ002>004

**Hartford - Tolland - Windham**

**27 0500EST  
1700EST**

**0 0**

**Strong Winds**

An intensifying low pressure system moved eastward across northern New England into the Gulf of Maine and caused strong northwest winds on Thanksgiving Day. Some peak wind gusts included: Plainfield, 56 mph; Bristol, 52 mph; Hartford, 43 mph; and Willimantic, 41 mph. Scattered power outages affected up to 10,000 electric customers statewide.

### MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

MAZ002>022

**Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Northern Worcester - Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Southern Plymouth - Barnstable**

**01 1200EST  
2000EST**

**0 0**

**Heavy Rain**

MAZ005>007-012>024

**Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Southern Plymouth - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket**

**01 1700EST  
2200EST**

**0 0**

**50.0K**

**Strong Winds**

MAZ013-016-020-022>024

**Western Norfolk - Eastern Norfolk - Southern Bristol - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket**

**01 1812EST  
2040EST**

**0 0**

**High Wind (G70)**

A strong coastal low pressure system moved northeast into southeastern Massachusetts from south of Long Island and brought high winds to many parts of southeastern Massachusetts, including Cape Cod and the Islands. There were even a few gusts to hurricane force. The strong winds blew from the east and southeast and gusts frequently reached 50 to 65 mph across much of the state...from Middlesex and Norfolk Counties east and southeast. Peak wind gusts of 81 mph were recorded both at Cuttyhunk Island west of Martha's Vineyard and atop Blue Hill in Milton. Some of the other highest wind gusts reported included: 79 mph at the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier; 77 mph at Dennis; 73 mph at Hyannis; 71 mph at Marstons Mills (Falmouth); and 60 mph at Chatham. Numerous trees and tree limbs were blown down, knocking out electrical power. Outages affected up to 32,000 electric customers statewide, including 12,000 in southeastern Massachusetts and 20,000 in the Merrimack Valley. There were scattered reports of trees falling onto homes causing scattered property damage.

Heavy rainfall occurred, with the maximum totals of 2.0 to 3.6 inches reported from the south coast across Cape Cod and the Islands. Heavy rain also fell across the rest of the state with 1.5 to more than 3.0 inches in less than 12 hours. In Hampshire County, Worthington reported a total of 3.06 inches. Lowell had 2.24 inches and Worcester had 2.22 inches. In New Bedford, along the south coast, 3.47 inches was reported. Major urban street flooding occurred in Dartmouth, New Bedford, and Acushnet. There were many reports of flooding...and not just in poor drainage areas.

There were reports of minor shore road flooding along the south coast and along Martha's Vineyard's shores at normally vulnerable locations. Thirteen crewmen had to be rescued from a sinking fishing vessel off of Gloucester.



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### MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

**MAZ002>004-008>011**      **Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Northern Worcester - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden**

<b>04</b>	<b>1530EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>Small Hail</b>
	<b>1645EST</b>							

**Hampshire County**  
**Belchertown**

<b>04</b>	<b>1600EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5K</b>	<b>Lightning</b>
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Widespread thunderstorms moved across western and central Massachusetts and there were numerous reports of small hail. The hail ranged in size from 1/16th inch to 5/8 inch in diameter. Pea size hail fell in Chicopee, Springfield, West Springfield, Amherst, Templeton, Monson, and Holyoke. Half-inch hail was reported from Northampton and Sterling. Hail up to 5/8 inch in diameter was reported from Tolland. Lightning struck more than once in nearly the same place and blew out the electrical systems of three houses on a hill in Belchertown. Telephone boxes melted to the sides of two of the houses. A utility pole was hit by lightning and a pine tree near the homes may have been hit.

**MAZ005>007**      **Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex**

<b>14</b>	<b>0600EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>Heavy Snow</b>
	<b>2200EST</b>							

A low pressure system developed off the mid-Atlantic coast and moved over the Atlantic Ocean southeast of Cape Cod. This weather system produced the first important nor'easter of the season for much of the state. Snow changed to rain along the coast, especially from Boston southward and over southeastern Massachusetts, but elsewhere there was an accumulation of several inches of snow before a change to rain. Boston had 3.7 inches and Worcester had 5.0 inches. The heaviest snowfalls occurred over parts of Middlesex and Essex Counties. Newburyport, E. Woburn, and N. Woburn all reported 6 inches. The snowfall caused numerous fender-bender accidents and several tie-ups on interstate highways.

**MAZ002**      **Western Franklin**

<b>22</b>	<b>0600EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>Heavy Snow</b>
	<b>2100EST</b>							

Heavy snowfall was reported in some isolated locations in the high elevations of the eastern slopes of the Berkshires, where Ashfield reported an accumulation of 6 inches.

**MAZ002>024**      **Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Northern Worcester - Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Southern Plymouth - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket**

<b>27</b>	<b>0500EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5.0K</b>	<b>Strong Winds</b>
	<b>1700EST</b>							

**MAZ005-016-022**      **Western Middlesex - Eastern Norfolk - Barnstable**

<b>27</b>	<b>1053EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>High Wind (G61)</b>
	<b>1430EST</b>							

An intensifying low pressure system moved eastward across northern New England into the Gulf of Maine and caused strong northwest winds over most of the state on Thanksgiving Day. High winds were reported at several places in the eastern part of the state. A peak gust to 71 mph was recorded atop Blue Hill in Milton, while Falmouth Airport on Cape Cod has a gust to 69 mph. In Middlesex County, a spotter in Littleton reported a gust to 67 mph. Wind gusts to 40 to 55 mph were common across the rest of the state. Some gusts included: Goshen, 53 mph; Worcester, 52 mph; Martha's Vineyard, 49 mph; Chatham, 48 mph; Nantucket, 47 mph; and Boston, 46 mph. In Gloucester, the strong winds knocked a chimney off a house and some copper flashing off a downtown building. No injuries were reported. The strong winds knocked down tree limbs and wires and resulted in power outages affecting more than 4,000 electric customers across the state.

**MAZ003**      **Eastern Franklin**

<b>28</b>	<b>1130EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>30K</b>	<b>Snow Squall</b>
	<b>1200EST</b>							



November 1997									
Location	Date	Time Local/Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### **MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East**

A sudden heavy snow squall reduced visibilities to near zero and resulted in a major multi-vehicle pileup on Interstate 91 in Deerfield. At least 21 people were injured. Several accidents also occurred in Greenfield. Route 2 from Greenfield to Shelburne was closed briefly.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

**NHZ011>012**

## Cheshire - Hillsborough

**04**      **1630EST**  
**1930EST**

0 0

## Small Hail

Widespread thunderstorms were accompanied by small hail, ranging from pea size to one-half inch. Pea size hail was reported at Rindge, Goffstown, and Jaffrey while half-inch hail fell in Lyndeboro.

NHZ011&gt;012

## Cheshire - Hillsborough

**14**      **0800EST**  
**2200EST**

0 0

## Heavy Snow

A low pressure system developed off the mid-Atlantic coast and moved over the Atlantic Ocean southeast of Cape Cod. This weather system produced the first important heavy snowfall of the season across southern New Hampshire. Some snowfall totals included: Swanzey, 8 inches; Hancock, 8 inches; and Jaffrey, 6.5 inches. Numerous fender-benders and some traffic tie-ups were reported.

**NHZ011>012**

## Cheshire - Hillsborough

**22            0600EST**  
**2100EST**

0 0

## Heavy Snow

Heavy snowfalls were reported from parts of Cheshire County. Some snowfall totals included: Gilsum, 7 inches; Walpole, Hancock, Peterborough, and Fitzwilliam all 6 inches. The snow was heavy and wet, bringing down tree limbs and power lines in both Cheshire and northwest Hillsborough Counties. The towns of Keene and Hillsborough were the most affected by the outages, according to Public Service of New Hampshire. The peak outages occurred at 12:30 PM.

**NHZ011>012**

## Cheshire - Hillsborough

**27**      **0500EST**  
             **1700EST**

0 0

## Strong Winds

An intensifying low pressure system moved eastward across northern New England into the Gulf of Maine and caused strong northwest winds on Thanksgiving Day. Peak wind gusts included 45 mph at Manchester and 30 mph at Jaffrey.

## RHODE ISLAND

RIZ001&gt;007

**Northwest Providence - Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport**

**01 1200EST  
2000EST**

0 0

## Heavy Rain

RIZ002&gt;007

**Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport**

**01 1700EST**  
**2200EST**

0 0

## Strong Winds

RIZ006

## Washington

**01 2000EST**  
Point Judith

0 0

### High Wind (G68)

A strong coastal low pressure system moved northeast into southeastern Massachusetts from south of Long Island and brought strong east to southeast winds to the central and south portion of Rhode Island. A few gusts to hurricane force occurred along the south coast with Point Judith reporting 79 mph. Scattered power outages were reported, especially near the south coast. Many boats were reported blown off their moorings in North Kingstown, where minor coastal flooding occurred. Water was reported two feet over the sea wall in isolated locations. Heavy rain fell with this storm. A few amounts included: Clayville, 3.26 inches; Woonsocket, 2.54 inches; and Newport, 2.00 inches.



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### RHODE ISLAND

#### Kent County

##### Warwick

09	0730EST				0	0	2K		Lightning
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A bolt of lightning knocked a 10-foot tall concrete cross from a church and sent it crashing onto the roof 25 feet below. The roof and some of the beams were damaged. A garage was struck by lightning in the Warwick Neck section of town. There was no report of fire.

#### RIZ001>007

Northwest Providence - Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport

27	0500EST 1700EST				0	0			Strong Winds
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#### RIZ007-007

##### Newport

27	0610EST 1013EST				0	0			High Wind (G58)
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##### Rose Island

An intensifying low pressure system moved eastward across northern New England into the Gulf of Maine and caused strong northwest winds on Thanksgiving Day. High winds were reported at several places along the south coast. Peak wind gusts included 67 mph at Rose Island (Newport) and 60 mph at Tiverton. Other gusts included 49 mph at Block Island and 46 mph at Providence.